THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Apsileants : HIROYUKI KAWAE ET AL. Confirmation No.: 1848

Serial No. : 10/026,871

Filed: December 21, 2001

TC/A.U. : 2879

Examiner : Kevin J. Quarterman

Docket No.: 01-764 Customer No.: 34704

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the prior art listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed, which prior art was cited in the corresponding Japanese application.

- (1) International Publication No. WO 00/33390;
- (2) Japanese Patent No. 4239588; and
- (3) Japanese Patent No. 2002118292.

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in the corresponding Japanese application on July 5, 2005.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the

present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

HIROYUKI KAWAE ET AL.

Gregory P. LaPointe Attorney for Applicants

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Date: September 19, 2005

I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on September 19, 2005.

Ву

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Sheet 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of 1

Complete if Known		
Application Number	10/026,871	
Filing Date	December 21, 2001	
First Named Inventor	Hiroyuki Kawae et al.	
Art Unit		
Examiner Name		
Attorney Docket Number	01-764	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}			Figures Appear
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		WO 00/33390	06-08-2000	Srivastava		
		JP 4239588	08-27-1992	Iwama et al.		
		JP 2002118292	04-19-2002	Takeshi		L
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Examiner	<u> </u>	Date	
Signature		Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.